

QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS  
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## Bush Nomination

The nomination of George Bush to become director of the Central Intelligence Agency should be withdrawn. If not, the Senate should reject the nomination.

Bush's nomination is the latest in a long line of dismal nominations made by President Ford. Some examples are Andrew Gibson's nomination to direct the Federal Energy Administration and Peter Flanigan's nomination to become ambassador to Spain. Both nominations were withdrawn.

But the Bush nomination is one of the most critical Mr. Ford has had to make and it reflects poor judgment and shortsightedness on Mr. Ford's part that he chose such an obviously politically-oriented person to direct an agency that desperately needs someone of a non-political background to direct it.

The Central Intelligence Agency has been badly hurt by the disclosures about its activities. But the United States is badly handicapped in conducting an informed foreign policy without an effective intelligence apparatus.

To rebuild the confidence and stature of the CIA, someone with respect and with enough clout is needed. George Bush is not that person.

Mr. Bush is the former chairman of the Republican National Committee, operating that organization when Watergate disclosures were just beginning to come to light. To be sure

Mr. Bush was never linked in any way to the Watergate scandals, but to involve someone who was associated with the Republican Party at that time with the embattled CIA is folly.

Mr. Bush is a young, ambitious man. A very capable politician, it is doubtful that he is planning a long stay as CIA director. Even now Mr. Bush is mentioned prominently as a possible vice presidential running mate with Mr. Ford.

This possibility would negate any long-range planning to uplift the agency. Until Mr. Bush is named by Mr. Ford to be his running mate or until Mr. Ford names someone else, the CIA will spin its wheels waiting for some strong, decisive administration from someone who plans to spend some time on the job.

The appointment itself has aroused controversy among many congressional lawmakers and the one thing the CIA doesn't need is any more controversy.

Mr. Bush has headed the U.S. liaison office in Peking for over a year now and for him to be named the Number One spy for the United States cannot be pleasing to the Chinese.

Mr. Ford should reconsider his choice and gracefully withdraw the nomination. It is no embarrassment to Mr. Bush because he is a victim of unusual circumstances.

He is a capable public servant. We're sure President Ford can find another position for him that will fully utilize his talent and experience.